9th August 1955]

SRI M. ETHIRAJULU :—" அரசாங்கம் வருஷா வருஷம் ஏராளமான பணத்தை வாடகைக்காக செலவிடவேண்டியிருப்பதால், சர்க்கார் காரியாலயங்களைப்பொருத்த வரையில், தேவையான கட்டடங்களைக் கட்டுவதற்கு இரண்டாவது ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டத்திலாவது வகை செய்வார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" We make efforts to build as many as possible but we are unable to do much."

Travellers Bungalows maintained by the Government

* 339 *Q*.—SRI M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of travellers bungalows in the State maintained by the Government; and

(*b*) how many of them have been provided with lavatory convenience?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Two hundred and seventy-one bungalows, which include inspection bungalows, travellers bungalows, circuit houses and rest sheds.

" (*b*) Two hundred and twenty-two of them are provided with lavatory convenience."

SRI M. ETHIRAJULU :—" மீதம் இருக்கும் ஐம்பதுக்கு மேற்பட்ட முசாபரி பங்களாக்களிலும் எப்பொழுது lavatory convenience ஏற்படுத்தப் படும் என்று மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்லமுடியுமா ? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" We did not provide them with modern sanitation facilities like flush-out, etc. They have got ordinary sanitary facilities. We are slowly attending to the work."

Buses run by the State Transport Service

* 340 *Q*.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of buses owned by the Government for the State Transport Service in and around Madras;

(*b*) the number of buses actually running and in use as on 1st July 1955;

(*c*) the number of buses on the sick list and the number under overhauling as on 1st July 1955; and

(*d*) the arrangements made for servicing and repair of the Government buses.

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) Three hundred and ninety-eight (398) buses on 1st July 1955.

" (*b*) Two hundred and seventy-nine (279) buses which exclude 2 buses kept as spare.

[9th August 1955

" (c) Under annual overhaul	62	buses.
Under half-yearly overhaul (B.C.)	26	"
Under scheduled maintenance, accident repairs and other petty attentions ...	21	"
Vehicles kept ready for B.C. inspection ...	8	"

" (d) The requisite technical staff has been placed under the control of a Mechanical Engineer for the purpose of servicing and repairs of Government buses. Servicing of vehicles is being done daily in the night between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. by the technical staff under the supervision of Foremen. Every vehicle is withdrawn one day in the month for carrying out servicing as per the monthly schedule drawn up for the purpose. Vehicles coming in for major attention or for heavy repairs are attended to in another section separately and are returned on the line immediately after the repairs. Besides the above arrangements, a predetermined schedule has been drawn up for attending to the vehicles quarterly, half-yearly, and annually. After presenting the vehicles before the Motor Vehicles Inspector for a certificate of fitness, the buses are put on the road. The scheme of servicing and repairs has been devised in such a way that approximately 20 per cent of the vehicles at any one time is away from the road for any one of these various periodical schedules of attention."

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" What is the average number of cases of breakdown in the City Bus Service daily and will the Government call for figures for a proper assessment of the pressure position? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I have given a long reply and I am not in a position to say what will be the exact number of breakdowns daily. Of course here and there, there will be some breakdowns. But the position is improving rapidly."

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" What is the arrangement for day-to-day repairs? Do the Government maintain an efficient servicing squad of mechanics to attend to breakdowns on spot."

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" We have increased the number of spare buses. As soon as we find that a bus is stranded, a spare bus is sent for the relief of the passangers. As and when we find it possible to increase the number of spare buses which can be maintained in the workshops, then only we can say safely that we will be able to afford more facilities to the passengers who may be stranded whenever there is a breakdown."

3-10 p.m. Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May I know how much time it takes for a bus to be overhauled in the Chrompet factory? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" It all depends upon the nature of repairs. If there are major repairs, they are attended to at Chrompet workshops. As I said there are

9th August 1955]

monthly, quarterly, half-yearly and annual repairs. They are compulsorily repaired. As a matter of fact when compared to other States, our State is much better with regard to the number of vehicles that got up from the workshops after repair, during a year."

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Do the Government maintain a reserve fleet of buses to replace the buses when they breakdown daily? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" We have already placed orders for several buses and we have found it very difficult to get chassis. We hope to improve our position within two or three months."

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" What is the normal life of these buses after allowing for depreciation and what steps have been taken by Government to replace old age buses which are still running on the road? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Old age buses are getting older and older and buses which were dead some years ago and which are still running will naturally breakdown here and there. As I have been repeating on the floor of this House, our position will improve when we replace our buses by new buses. Every effort is being made to get chassis and build new buses. When we get more buses we could improve our position. Till then I think there will be some breakdown here and there. We cannot help it."

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Will the Government condemn as unserviceable the buses that have been taken from private companies because they are more than 5 years old but still are put on the road? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" As and when we get new buses we condemn a certain number of buses. I think about 15 to 20 buses have been condemned."

Sri T. G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" May I know whether the hon. Member (Sri T. Purushotham) wants to learn operating? " (Laughter.)

(No answer.)

Sri G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" May I know the reason why buses on one particular route are not keeping up to the interval and why two or three buses come in quick succession? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" There are various reasons for that. It will not be possible for me to give all the reasons within the limited time of question-hour. Among the many cases for that, I may say that one of the cause is the lack of queue system in certain places and lack of the required number of vehicles."

[9th August 1955

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" Are the Government perfectly satisfied with the Government transport running in Madras City? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The public do appreciate the difficulties of Government."

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" May I request the Government to consider the desirability of leaving some of the routes to private competition, viz., to private operators so that the Government may know whether they can compete with private operators in efficiency and cheapness of transport? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" That is a retrograde step and Government do not propose taking such a step."

Sri A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that apart from compulsory repairs, these buses are causing a terrible noise while travelling on the road? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Old cars also make the same noise."

Sri A. SUBRAMANYAM :—" தனிப்பட்டவர்களுக்குச் சொந்தமான பஸ்கள் இன்னும் சென்னையில் ஓடிக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றன. அவைகளையும் ஏன் சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை ? "

The Hon. B. PARAMESWARAN :—" அவைகள் வெளியூர்களுக்குப் போகும் பஸ்களாக இருந்து சென்னையில் ஓடலாம். சென்னை நகரத்தில் அரசாங்கத்தின் பஸ்தான் ஓடுகிறது."

Sri T. G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" May I know what the Hon. Minister means by compulsory repair? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I said that certain buses are withdrawn from the road for being overhauled and for doing repairs. That is what I meant when I used the words ' compulsory repairs '."

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" While appreciating the difficulties of Government, may I request them to mark the time for these buses so that they could place the orders for new buses in advance and thus replace the old buses which have become out of service by the new buses in time? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" As a matter of fact we should have placed orders some years ago. But we did not anticipate the sudden stopping of the tramways. Had we anticipated it, we would have placed orders sufficiently in time. We were not able to get the number of vehicles. Government have been taking prompt action in that matter. Government are trying to see that as many buses as are necessary are made available. Sufficient funds have also been provided for the same."

9th August 1955]

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I ask the Hon. Minister for Transport when he had said that the public do appreciate the difficulties of Government, whether the Government do appreciate the difficulties of the travelling public? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" At any rate more than the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Government do appreciate the difficulties of the travelling public."

SRI S. SRINIVASA RAO :—" Now that the Hon. Minister has said that leaving transport in the City to individual enterprise is a retrograde step, may I ask whether Government would nationalize the transport system throughout the State? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Let us first of all try to set our house in order. Let us improve our position in the City before we think of taking over the buses running in municipal areas."

SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAI :—" Is it not a fact, that because in course of time, the principal means of production would be nationalized, that the nationalization of transport in the whole State should take place in due course? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" That is the idea. But we have got to conform to the instructions of the Planning Commission to proceed very cautiously in this matter."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I have to announce to the House that I have received the following message, dated the 9th August 1955, from the Governor of Madras :—

'In pursuance of Article 207, clause (3), of the Constitution of India, I, Sri Prakasa, Governor of Madras, hereby recommend to the Madras Legislative Council the consideration of the Madras Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1955.' "

III.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I have to announce to the House that I have received the following messages, dated the 9th August 1955, from the Hon. the Speaker, Madras Legislative Assembly :—

(1) " In accordance with rule 114 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras General Sales-Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 16 of 1955), as passed by the Assembly on the 9th August 1955 and signed by me for the recommendations of the Council.

' I certify that this is a Money Bill within the meaning of Article 199 of the Constitution of India.

(2) ' In accordance with rule 114 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Hill Stations (Preservation of Trees) Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 17 of 1955) as passed by the Assembly on the 9th August 1955, and signed by me, for the concurrence of the council.

(3) ' In accordance with rule 114 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 18 of 1955) as passed by the Assembly on the 9th August 1955 and signed by me for the recommendations of the Council

I certify that this is a Money Bill within the meaning of Article 199 of the Constitution of India.' "